

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, SOPN, ETRD, CVIS, MILI, OTRA, CH, US

SUBJECT: EA/PRCM WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. PRC GRAIN PURCHASES (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE WIDESPREAD PUBLICITY GIVEN TO NCNA REPORTS OF SEVERE DROUGHT IN NORTHERN CHINA HAVE FUELED SPECULATION THAT THE PRC MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE STILL RELATIVELY LOW INTERNATIONAL GRAIN PRICES TO REPLENISH DOMESTIC STOCKS. THE CHINESE HAVE MADE CONFIRMED PURCHASES OF 5.1 MILLION TONS OF WHEAT FOR DELIVERY DURING THE CURRENT YEAR. THIS IS SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN IMPORTS FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS, BUT IN LINE WITH THE 1961-75 AVERAGE. A RUMOR OF AN ADDITIONAL PRC GRAIN PURCHASE OF 1 MILLION TONS FROM CANADA MET WITH A SKEPTICAL REACTION BY THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN PEKING. WE HAVE HAD NO REPORTS THAT THE CHINESE ARE ABOUT TO TURN TO THE US MARKET FOR
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GRAIN. WHILE SOME ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES MAY BE AVAILABLE--PRIMARILY IN CANADA--THE CHINESE SHOULD FIND IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO AVOID BUYING US GRAIN IF THEY MAKE MANY MORE LARGE PURCHASES.

2. POTOMAC ASSOCIATES POLICY PERSPECTIVES STUDY (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

I PARTICIPATED MONDAY IN A NEW YORK MEETING, CHAIRED

BY BILL WATTS OF POTOMAC ASSOCIATES, TO HELP FORMULATE QUESTIONS FOR A GALLUP POLL WHICH WILL BE THE CENTER-PIECE OF PA'S FORTHCOMING POLICY PERSPECTIVES MONOGRAPH ON CHINA POLICY. BILL WILL SHOW ME NEXT WEEK HOW HE AND HIS SPECIALIST HAVE REFINED THE QUESTIONS. HE IS SHOOTING FOR PUBLICATION BY MID-JULY.

3. PRC ACCEPTS NCUSCT DELEGATIONS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE (NCUSCT) WAS INFORMED THIS WEEK THAT THREE OF ITS PROPOSED TRADE DELEGATIONS FOR THIS YEAR HAD BEEN ACCEPTED. THEY ARE PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY, MINING EQUIPMENT, AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT. THE ONLY PREVIOUS NCUSCT-SPONSORED EXPORT-ORIENTED DELEGATION TO THE PRC WAS THE AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS DELEGATION LATE LAST YEAR.

4. CHINESE-AMERICAN CONCERN OVER US-PRC RELATIONS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

DICK HART MET TODAY WITH FOUR MEMBERS OF THE NEWLY-FORMED NATIONAL CHINESE-AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR US-PRC RELATIONS. THEY ORIGINALLY REQUESTED A MEETING WITH MIKE OKSENBERG, WHO TURNED THEM OVER TO US. THEY INDICATED THIS WAS A PRELIMINARY MEETING TO REINFORCE A FUTURE LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT, WHICH WILL ASK FOR A MEETING WITH HIM AND/OR THE SECRETARY TO REGISTER THEIR CONCERNS OVER THE APPARENT LACK OF PROGRESS IN NORMALIZATION. CONFIDENTIAL

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5. CITIZENSHIP CLAIMANT'S VISIT TO USLO: NOT A BREAKTHROUGH (CONFIDENTIAL)

OUR FEBRUARY 24 REPORT STATED THAT AN ETHNIC CHINESE CLAIMANT TO US CITIZENSHIP GOT PAST THE PLA GUARD AT USLO AND THAT USLO GAVE HER AN APPOINTMENT LETTER TO RETURN MARCH 21 WITH FURTHER DOCUMENTATION. ON MARCH 17 SHE TELEPHONED USLO TO REPORT THAT THE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU HAS CONFISCATED HER 1948 US PASSPORT AND FORBIDDEN HER TO HAVE FURTHER CONTACT WITH USLO. WE AND PPT ARE CONSIDERING WHERE WE GO FROM HERE. WE HAD THOUGHT A BREAKTHROUGH IN SUCH CASES MIGHT BE AT HAND; INSTEAD, WE SUFFERED A NET LOSS.

6. USAF COLONEL TO VISIT PRC? (CONFIDENTIAL)

WE HAVE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED A PROPOSAL THAT A USAF COLONEL CURRENTLY AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF DEFENSE STUDIES IN ENGLAND JOIN 12 NON-AMERICAN FELLOW OFFICER-STUDENTS ON A VISIT TO THE PRC. DOD WILL MAKE A FORMAL

REQUEST THROUGH PM FOR THIS TRIP ONCE THEY HAVE FULL DE-
TAILS.
CHRISTOPHER

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